

From: Daniel Mann - Centreville KW164
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/17/01 9:26am
Subject: The Proposed Settlement

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am 21 years old. I'm about to graduate from college, and I have grown up with computers. In school, I have used mostly Macs, and in work, I use windows machines exclusively. That is to say I have extensive experience on both platforms. I think that the proposed settlement is a joke. Not only does it excuse the findings of fact and the verdict of the court, but also the settlement offers a public relations coup by allowing Microsoft to "donate" 500 million dollars of their own products. This costs them very much less than they propose. The duplication of software is very inexpensive. In a year, nobody will remember that it was due to an antitrust conviction that the software was even donated. I feel that the punishment necessary is far greater than what is being offered. If Microsoft cannot be split, then I urge you to open the windows source code, offer unbundled versions of software, require full java support as a standard feature, and require development and production of office and internet explorer software for all competing platforms. Additionally, strict fines should be imposed. Perhaps half of the damages, or roughly 6 Billion dollars could be a more equitable compromise. Thank you for your time.

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